



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 11 August 2008

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)
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- According to USA Today, the Transportation Security Administration may allow airports to ban firearms from terminals, parking lots, roads, and other airport areas where many states currently allow passengers to carry lethal weapons. (See item [18](#))
- United Press International reports that a cell phone call to 911 from a Vermont murder victim went astray and delayed police for more than 30 minutes. WPTZ 5 Plattsburgh said it was not unheard of for 911 calls placed in Vermont to be picked up in New York's Washington County. (See item [44](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Nuclear Reactors](#); [Materials and Waste](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#); [Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#); [Information Technology](#); [Communications](#); [Commercial Facilities](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

Federal and State: [Government Facilities](#); [Emergency Services](#); [National Monuments and Icons](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical**: ELEVATED, **Cyber**: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *August 8, Bloomberg* – (International) **Russian prime minister says ‘war has started,’ Georgia claims invasion.** Russia's prime minister said “war has started” over the breakaway region of South Ossetia as Georgia's president accused its neighbor of a “well-planned invasion.” Georgia is a key link in a U.S.-backed “southern energy corridor” that links the Caspian Sea region with world markets, bypassing Russia. Two pipelines pass through the country linking Azerbaijan and Turkey. The BP Plc-led Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline, which has been closed since August 5 due to an explosion in Turkey, runs about 62 miles south of the South Ossetian capital of

Tskhinvali. The EU said Friday it is “working toward a cease fire.”

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601087&sid=aseroDzA.EQs&refer=home>

2. *August 8, Times of Trenton* – (New Jersey) **Suspicious device found in woods near pipeline turns out to be harmless.** A suspicious device rigged to look like a timed explosive was found Thursday afternoon in a wooded area about 600 feet from the Transco natural-gas underground pipeline, drawing out the State Police Bomb Squad, Princeton township police said. The contraption turned out to be a harmless bundle consisting of several flares, a wire, and a kitchen timer wrapped together with black electrical tape, a township police detective said. Township police took the device as evidence in their ongoing investigation after the State Police bomb squad determined it was not an explosive.
Source: <http://www.nj.com/news/times/regional/index.ssf?/base/news-14/1218168333182630.xml&coll=5>
3. *August 8, Reuters* – (California; Tennessee) **M’bishi Motors to test electric car with U.S. firms.** Mitsubishi Motors Corp. said on Friday it would partner with U.S. utilities Southern California Edison and Pacific Gas and Electric Co. (PG&E) to test its zero-emission electric car for use in the United States. “The joint partnership (with PG&E) will yield valuable data and a greater appreciation of the practicality of an all-electric vehicle in California,” Mitsubishi’s corporate general manager said. “Partnering with automakers like Mitsubishi is vital to developing compatible infrastructures.” Nissan Motor Co., another major advocate of pure electric cars, last month formed a partnership with the U.S. state of Tennessee to study the infrastructure needed to support the roll-out of its yet-to-be developed electric cars due in 2011.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUST28677520080807>
4. *August 7, Reuters* – (National) **U.S. Gulf Independence Hub gas platform seen back Fri.** The huge Independence Hub natural gas production platform in the Gulf of Mexico was expected to start ramping up on Friday after shutting early last week for planned maintenance on an associated pipeline, the platform’s majority owner Enterprise Products Partners LP said Thursday. “We are close to finishing our work on the Independence Trail pipeline, either later tonight or early tomorrow. Once that’s completed, we’ll bring flows back up barring any unforeseen delays,” a company spokesman said, adding some volumes should be flowing through the Hub on Friday. The system was expected back late last week, but its return was delayed by Tropical Storm Edouard, which formed in the central Gulf of Mexico last weekend.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN0736186220080807>
5. *August 7, Crosscut* – (Washington) **Shell Puget Sound Refinery.** The Shell Puget Sound Refinery is one of two facilities near Anacortes and is a major supplier of fuel in Washington. According to the National Terror Alert Response Center, the refinery

received a threatening message on its Web site on May 30, 2008. No evacuations were made, but the premises were searched for signs of a bomb. They found nothing suspicious.

Source: <http://www.crosscut.com/energy-utilities/16500/Shell+Puget+Sound+Refinery/>

6. *August 7, Areawide News* – (Arkansas) **As local metal thefts increase, so do prices.**
Due to the high cost of metal, many cities and residents have had problems with thieves trying to cash in on the rising cost. Copper seems to be a favorite for these thieves. Some are dealing more heavily with thefts, especially the North Arkansas Electric Cooperative (NAEC). The director of marketing said Baxter County had three copper thefts last year, which resulted in over \$6,000 in damages. The latest theft occurred when someone broke into the backyard of the Baxter County offices. The other two happened when people broke into substations. “We have increased security efforts around our offices,” she said. “We’re looking into surveillance cameras.” According to a NAEC November 28, 2007, press release, the distribution of electricity is a high priority for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Vandalism of electric distribution centers cannot only disrupt electricity but can also be considered an act of terrorism.
Source: <http://www.areawidenews.com/story/1451178.html>
7. *August 7, Danville News* – (Pennsylvania) **PPL officials developing cleanup plan for collapse.** PPL Montour Power Plant officials are developing a clean-up plan for a 157-foot-wide section of a water distribution structure that fell from one of the huge cooling towers Tuesday. “PPL is deciding how to approach the structure in a safe fashion and will not send employees or contractors into the area until we have a plan,” a PPL spokeswoman said Wednesday. They do not have a cause on why the wooden structure collapsed, and officials have not speculated on a cause, she said. Officials have not even discussed any possibility of sabotage or terrorism acts. The structure, which collapsed on itself, was 60 feet high on the base of the Unit 1 cooling tower. The water distribution structure encircles the outside of the base of the 370-foot-high concrete cooling tower, which was not damaged. Officials estimate one-eighth of the structure collapsed. While Unit 1 shut down immediately after the incident, PPL has been monitoring the air from both cooling towers. Unit 2 of the plant remains operational, and if PPL would need additional electricity, it could draw from other plants including some from outside the state. No one was injured in the incident shortly before noon.
Source:
http://www.dailyitem.com/0700_the_danville_news/local_story_220081509.html
8. *August 7, Reuters* – (Texas) **Calpine Corpus Christi outage impacts refineries.**
Calpine Corp. said a failure at its Corpus Christi power plant Thursday morning caused a loss of power at two local oil refineries, but that the facilities were back online by 11:30 a.m. As a result of the outage, Calpine was not able to provide steam power to two Corpus Christi refineries – Citgo Petroleum Corp.’s east plant refinery and Flint Hills Resources’ refinery, a company spokesman said. According to Citgo’s filing, the restart process started Thursday morning, but may take until August 13 to be completed. A Citgo spokeswoman was not available to comment about the impact of the steam power loss. A Flint Hills spokeswoman said she was not able to provide any information on

whether production at the company's refinery had been impacted by the steam power loss.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN0733238420080807>

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Chemical Industry Sector

9. *August 7, Bangor Daily News* – (National) **Groups press Collins to act on chemical security.** Several health and environmental groups are urging a ranking member of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs to support federal legislation that the organizations claim will help close a dangerous hole in U.S. anti-terrorism policies. The groups are pushing for Congress to enact legislation that would require facilities that use certain highly toxic chemicals to switch to safer alternatives whenever economically and technically feasible. The bill, titled the “Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Act of 2008,” targets only facilities where a terrorist attack poses the highest risk of widespread injury or death to nearby population centers. Those chemicals include chlorine, ammonia, sulfur dioxide, and hydrogen fluoride. The current House bill, HR 5577, passed the House Homeland Security Committee in March. But some health and security experts have argued that communities located near chemical facilities or rail lines used to transport toxic chemicals need additional protections from terrorist attack. Specifically, they want the federal government to require high-risk facilities to switch to safer alternatives. According to the Congressional Research Service, there are nearly 7,400 facilities in the United States in which at least 1,000 people would be at risk from a “worst-case release” of chemicals. Eighteen of those facilities are in Maine.

Source:

http://www.redorbit.com/news/science/1514983/groups_press_collins_to_act_on_chemical_security/

10. *August 7, Associated Press* – (Alabama) **EPA starts clean up at former bumper plant in Mobile.** Residents are relieved this week to see dump trucks rolling in and out of an abandoned bumper plant in their south Mobile, Alabama, neighborhood. It is a sign that a hazardous chemical threat will soon be removed. The trucks are clearing initial debris in the US. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) \$1 million cleanup of a former Mobile American Bumper Plating 7-acre plant site that contains hazardous materials. Those threats include cyanide, nickel solution, sodium hydroxide, chromic acid, and other unknown materials. The chemical wastes were abandoned in 85 barrels and 18 vats in a long shed-like metal building that has to be demolished.

Source: <http://www.wtvm.com/Global/story.asp?S=8807138>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

11. *August 8, Richmond Times-Dispatch* – (Virginia) **Six nuclear protesters arrested at North Anna plant visitors area.** Six anti-nuclear power protesters were arrested at the North Anna power plant's visitor center Thursday after refusing to leave at its closing time. A spokesman for Dominion Virginia Power said about 25 protesters showed up at the visitor's center near Mineral in Louisa County at about 2:30 p.m. The protesters at one point sat down in the center's exhibition hall and began chanting anti-nuclear sentiments, he said. He said Virginia Power officials spoke to the protesters and asked them to leave by 4 p.m., when the visitor center normally closes. Some refused to leave, and authorities were called. By the time State Police and Louisa County Sheriff's Department deputies arrived, only six protestors remained in the building and were arrested for trespassing. They were cheered by the crowd as they were led away, he said. The center is about one mile from the company's two nuclear reactors. The protesters align themselves with such environmental advocacy groups as Blue Ridge Earth First!, Rising Tide North America, and Nuclear Watch South, said a spokeswoman for Nuclear Watch South. She said the protest was held because "we're trying to show visible opposition to the revival of nuclear power."
Source: <http://www.inrich.com/cva/ric/news.apx.-content-articles-RTD-2008-08-08-0117.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

12. *August 8, F-16.net* – (California) **F-16 makes emergency landing at Fresno IAP.** A National Guard F-16 fighter jet had to make an emergency landing Wednesday at Fresno International Airport. A pilot on a routine practice run found his engine gauge malfunctioning in flight. Without the gauge, it is hard to tell the status of the plane's engine. The plane landed safely and the pilot was unharmed. About two weeks ago, there was a similar incident, in which an F-16 from the 194 FS landed at the Fresno International Airport after experiencing some type of engine concerns.
Source: http://www.f-16.net/news_article3005.html
13. *August 7, MarineLink.com* – (National) **Navy prepares remote minehunting system as future asset.** The Navy completed technical evaluation and training of the Remote Minehunting System (RMS) aboard USS Bainbridge (DDG-96) in Panama City on July 28. The evaluation enables the Navy to continue training on the system, designed as part of the mine warfare mission package for the littoral combat ship. Since mines are a significant threat to today's battlegroups, destroyers have traditionally been first to enter coastal regions. According to a Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City RMS project engineer, the RMS will provide a reconnaissance capability that far surpasses traditional methods of mine hunting and will exponentially increase the safety factor for ship and crew. He explained the RMS is a system of systems that provides a remote and semi-

autonomous capability to enter anticipated operational areas and perform reconnaissance for mine threats prior to any manned ship entering the area. “The RMS is actually comprised of five subsystems: there is the Remote Minehunting Vehicle (RMV); the AN/AQS-20A (Q-20) towed sensor for minehunting detection and identification; the launch and recovery system; the data link system – half of which is on the RMV, the other half positioned aboard ship; and the software, called the Remote Minehunting Functional Segment (RMFS), which resides within the combat system aboard ship,” he said.

Source: <http://www.marinelink.com/Story/ShowStory.aspx?StoryID=212511>

14. *August 7, United Press International* – (National) **Threat of scud attacks a reality.** The threat of old, short-range Scud ballistic missiles being launched with nuclear or biological warheads from large container cargo ships from outside U.S. territorial waters is a reality, some of the nation’s leading experts in ballistic-missile defense (BMD) warn. The entire populations of the U.S. Eastern seaboard and the West Coast are at risk from such attacks. The weapons systems involved are extremely cheap. Land-based ballistic missiles can be almost instantly identified with their countries of origin after takeoff. But Scuds launched from container ships cannot. The technology to intercept Scud missiles is mature and reliable.

Source: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2008/aug/07/threat-of-scud-attacks-a-reality/>

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Banking and Finance Sector

15. *August 8, South Shore Express* – (Massachusetts) **Bank warns of cell phone scam.** This week, the chief executive officer of Mutual Bank urged the public to beware of a cell phone/identity theft scam, and to immediately contact authorities if they receive such a message. A number of cell phone owners in the region received text messages from a source claiming to be Mutual Bank, saying that the customer’s bank account access had been locked, and urging recipients to call 508-424-1203 to restore the account. According to the official, a recorded message then asks for the customer’s card and pin number. He said the scam is apparently the work of scam artists who picked the name of the bank and sent text messages to a random list of cell phone owners, in the hope that at least some of the people on their list were actually Mutual Bank customers. The cell phone numbers did not come from Mutual Bank, he said. Mutual Bank’s main office is in Whitman and the bank has branches in Brockton, Carver, Falmouth, Halifax, Hanson, and Middleboro.

Source: <http://southshoreexpress.net/content/view/1720/27/>

16. *August 7, Reuters* – (National) **Bank of America gets subpoenas, reports SEC probe.** Bank of America Corp, the largest U.S. retail bank, said on Thursday it received subpoenas and requests for information relating to auction-rate securities from federal and state government agencies. In addition, Bank of America said it received subpoenas, interrogatories, or civil investigative demands from a number of state attorneys general regarding municipal derivatives transactions from 1992 to the present. Bank of America

said it is cooperating with regulators. It disclosed the various matters in its quarterly report filed with the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC). Separately, the Charlotte, North Carolina-based bank said Countrywide Financial Corp, the mortgage lending giant it bought last month, has responded to subpoenas from the SEC and faces a formal investigation by that agency. Countrywide, meanwhile, is also under investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), authorities have said. The FBI last month said it had 21 corporate targets in its investigation of potential corporate fraud in the mortgage industry. California, Connecticut, Florida, and Illinois have all sued Countrywide over its lending practices.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/ousiv/idUSWEN737720080808>

17. *August 7, Associated Press* – (National) **Citigroup returning billions to investors.**

Citigroup Inc. will buy back more than \$7 billion in auction-rate securities and pay \$100 million in fines as part of settlements with federal and state regulators, who said the bank marketed the investments as safe despite liquidity risks. Citigroup will buy back the securities from tens of thousands of investors nationwide under separate accords announced Thursday with the Securities and Exchange Commission, a New York Attorney General and other state regulators. The buybacks must be completed by November. The nation's largest financial institution also will pay a \$50 million civil penalty to New York State and a separate \$50 million civil penalty to the North American Securities Administrators Association, which represents securities regulators in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. In addition, New York-based Citigroup agreed to make its best efforts to liquidate by the end of next year all of the roughly \$12 billion of auction-rate securities it sold to retirement plans and other institutional investors. The \$330 billion auction-rate securities market involves investors buying and selling securities backed by municipal bonds, student loans and other debt. Interest rates on the securities are set at periodic auctions, on the basis of bids submitted.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5g7bNPSsMMdpQ0ONw5nq6Ak70cXSxD92DJ5LGO>

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Transportation Sector

18. *August 8, USA Today* – (National) **TSA weighs airport gun ban in unsecured areas.**

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) may allow airports to ban firearms from terminals, parking lots, roads, and other airport areas where many states currently allow passengers to carry lethal weapons. Airport officials and lawmakers are watching closely as the TSA weighs a request by Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport to modify its security program to impose an airport-wide ban on guns. It is the first such request to TSA from an airport. "Any decisions we make that affect (Atlanta) could affect every other airport in the country," a TSA spokesman said Thursday. Federal law bars passengers from bringing weapons to or past airport checkpoints. But in many airports, state law allows passengers to carry guns and knives in unsecured areas such as a main terminal — often to airport officials' dismay.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2008-08-07-tsa-gun-ban_N.htm

19. *August 8, Associated Press* – (California) **Plane makes emergency landing at Calif. Airport.** A Continental Airlines jet made an emergency landing at John Wayne Airport shortly after its departure when a pilot smelled smoke, authorities said. The plane, carrying 113 passengers and five crew members, landed safely Thursday afternoon and evacuated without incident, an airport spokeswoman said. A Federal Aviation Administration spokesman said there was “no report of an actual fire on board,” and fire crews found no flames or smoke on the plane.
Source: <http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5gdFehzqp5i-WJ6iFr6DrB6C9UWwD92E2C9G0>
20. *August 8, Newsday* – (New York) **Truck knocks down pedestrian bridge on Bruckner.** A tractor-trailer hit a pedestrian bridge on the southbound Bruckner Expressway in the Bronx early Friday, knocking the bridge to the road and causing a massive traffic jam, New York City police said. It was unclear how long it will take for all of the debris to be removed from the roadway.
Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/local/newyork/ny-nybruc0809,0,2553716.story>
21. *August 8, Belfast Telegraph* – (International) **Militant group issues new Olympics bomb threat.** An Islamic militant group has released another video threatening attacks in China to coincide with the Beijing Olympics. A U.S. group that monitors militant organizations says the latest video from the Turkistan Islamic Party (TIP) threatens attack on planes, trains, and buses. The TIP is seeking independence in China’s western Xinjiang region, the only Muslim-majority area of the country. The group, which draws its support from the local Uighur population, is believed to be based across the border in Pakistan.
Source: <http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/breaking-news/world/asia/militant-group-issues-new-olympics-bomb-threat-13934536.html>
22. *August 8, Sun Media* – (International) **Blue Water Bridge shut by bomb threat.** Much of Point Edward’s waterfront was evacuated and Great Lakes ship traffic temporarily halted yesterday after someone threatened to blow up the Blue Water Bridge in Canada. Both lanes of the international span were closed for 90 minutes after the threat was delivered to the Canadian Coast Guard office. Staff at the Canadian bridge plaza was evacuated and provincial police also cleared pedestrians and vehicles from waterfront parking lots on either side of the bridge, popular gathering spots for locals and tourists alike. A member of the bridge commission said the threat was received by the Canadian Coast Guard and relayed to bridge officials around 12:30 p.m. Because the bridge was targeted, the Coast Guard halted all water traffic approaching it from Lake Huron and the St. Clair River, including commercial shipping and pleasure boats, a spokesperson said.
Source: <http://lfpress.ca/newsstand/News/Local/2008/08/08/6383891-sun.html>
23. *August 8, Raleigh Telegram* – (North Carolina) **NC ports require new ID’s for truck drivers.** As part of a new Coast Guard secure ports identification program, truck drivers and others entering North Carolina port areas will need to apply to qualify for a new ID

card before November 1st. According to the North Carolina Ports Authority, beginning November 1st, anyone who needs unescorted access to secure areas of North Carolina port facilities will have to show a “Transportation Worker Identification Credential” or TWIC card. The new forms of identification will be issued by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and enforced by the US Coast Guard.

Source:

<http://www.raleigh3.com/default.asp?sourceid=&smenu=1&twindow=&mad=&sdetail=1130&wpage=1&skeyword=&sidate=&ccat=&ccatm=&restate=&restatus=&reoption=&retype=&repmin=&repmax=&rebed=&rebath=&subname=&pform=&sc=2724&hn=raleigh3&he=.com>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

24. *August 7, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (North Carolina) **External contamination found on a radiopharmaceutical delivery package.** A radiopharmaceutical package was received July 15 by the Veteran’s Administration Medical Center in Fayetteville, North Carolina. A wipe test performed on the external surface of the package upon receipt indicated a removable contamination level, which was above the regulatory limit. Surveys inside the package did not indicate elevated contamination. The package contained radiopharmaceuticals with Tc-99m and was shipped from Cardinal Health in Fayetteville, North Carolina. The vendor/shipper also serves as the delivery carrier. The shipper/delivery carrier was immediately notified of the contaminated package.

Source: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/en.html#en44389>

25. *August 7, KNXV 15 Phoenix* – (Arizona) **Suspicious package causes evacuation of Tempe home.** A suspicious package found in a Tempe, Arizona, mailbox Tuesday turned out to be a bomb made out of fireworks. A Tempe police official said a resident found the package in a stand-alone mailbox outside his home. The man took the item into the house and called police. An officer on the scene got a description of the package and decided to have the residents evacuate. A Tempe police bomb squad was called to check the package for explosives. Bomb squad members determined that the package was an improvised explosive device made from fireworks and other materials. The package was dismantled, and no one was hurt.

Source: http://www.abc15.com/news/local/story.aspx?content_id=ac2de601-4c20-45ee-85db-6b3ceb973b82

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Agriculture and Food Sector

26. *August 8, Courier-Post* – (National) **FDA may ease seafood rules.** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) may loosen restrictions imposed last year on Chinese seafood processors. The FDA restricted imports of five types of Chinese-raised fish 13 months

ago, saying many contained chemicals the U.S. does not allow for health reasons, such as long-term cancer risks. Since then, China's government and seafood producers have stepped up testing and safety controls. The percentage of shipments testing positive for the drugs has dropped from about 25 percent to less than six percent, said the deputy director of the FDA's Office of Food Safety.

Source:

<http://www.courierpostonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080808/BUSINESS01/808080332/1003/BUSINESS>

27. *August 7, Current-Argus* – (New Mexico) **New Mexico to lose bovine tuberculosis free status.** New Mexico is within days of losing its bovine tuberculosis free status, according to the New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association president. The loss will be triggered by publication of an emergency rule in the Federal Register by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), which is expected by mid-August and will become effective immediately, she reported. Individual states have the option to require additional testing including cattle of other types and ages, she explained. Several states including California, Idaho, Illinois, Wisconsin, Nebraska, and North Dakota have already imposed testing requirements, some of them more stringent than what is expected from the USDA. In addition to testing, other states may require premise identification as well as individual animal identification. This is the second time in five years that New Mexico will have its bovine TB status downgraded, she reported.

Source: http://www.currentargus.com/ci_10133160

28. *August 6, U.S. Department of Agriculture* – (National) **California firm recalls ground beef due to possible E. Coli contamination.** S&S Foods LLC. is recalling approximately 153,630 pounds of frozen ground beef products because they may be contaminated with E. coli O157:H7, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced today. The following products subject to recall include: 30-pound boxes of "742798 MFST, 100% ground beef bulk, 80/20, 1lb. brick." This product was intended for food service and institutional use and not for direct retail purchase. The problem was discovered through a joint epidemiological investigation by FSIS and the Virginia Department of Health as well as product testing by the Virginia Department of Health. These ground beef products were shipped to distribution centers located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Allentown, Pennsylvania, FSIS has received 11 reports of illnesses associated with consumption of this product.

Source: <http://www.usrecallnews.com/2008/08/usda-1627.html>

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Water Sector

29. *August 7, Associated Press* – (California) **Calif. panel approves plan for desalination plant.** The California Coastal Commission approved a plan to build the Western Hemisphere's largest desalination plant north of San Diego. Wednesday's decision came after a debate over the merits of the \$300 million Carlsbad project, which is expected to eventually produce ten percent of San Diego County's water supply from ocean water.

Construction on the plant could begin next year and begin delivering drinking water in 2011, according to Poseidon Resources Corp., which is heading the project. Commissioners gave the plant conditional approval in November. However, final approval hinged on the commission endorsing the company's plans to make the plant carbon neutral and to restore wetlands to make up for the marine life that would get drawn in and killed through the plant's intake system.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D92DH6A80.htm>

30. *August 7, Putnam County Courier* – (New York) **'Evidence was obvious' in illegal sewage dumping case.** A Lake Carmel man and a Mohegan Lake contractor face stiff fines and possible incarceration for allegedly attempting to hook up a private waste water system into a municipal catch basin. The men were arrested in June by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) following a complaint received by Kent Police. Both men appeared in court July 31 and pleaded innocent. The case began when DEP police spoke with a Kent police department sergeant. Officers observed a 12-foot long cut in the ground that crossed the roadway. "The road was wet and smelled of sewage. Following further investigation and an interview with [one suspect] along with the evidence observed, it was determined that the homeowner was hooking up his residence to a catch basin that leads to Lake Carmel. The evidence was obvious so both men were issued summonses for violating a New York State Department of Environmental Conservation SPEEDYS permit, as well as for violating New York State's pollution standards while a third summons charged the men with endangering the public health and safety of the environment," he said. It was illegal to connect a private septic line into a catch basin that feeds the lake.

Source:

http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=19895401&BRD=1708&PAG=461&dept_id=72445&rft=6

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

31. *August 7, Associated Press* – (Texas) **San Antonio site pushed for biodefense lab.** Researchers, veterinarians and state and local officials were overwhelmingly in favor of putting a new national biodefense lab in San Antonio, but a few residents expressed concerns Thursday about an accidental release of animal disease into the community. The Department of Homeland Security collected public comments on the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility at a federal hearing. Texas Research Park, just outside San Antonio, is among six possible sites for the facility. The new facility would replace the existing 24-acre research complex on Plum Island, which is about 100 miles northeast of New York City in the Long Island Sound. Researchers at the new facility could study foot-and-mouth disease, classical and African swine fever, Japanese encephalitis, Rift Valley fever and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia. A final decision is expected later this year, said Homeland Security's director of national laboratories. Construction on the \$450 million facility would begin in 2010 and it would open in 2015. The public can comment on an environmental impact statement analyzing the possible sites until August 25. Moving the facility from Plum Island to the U.S. mainland and near herds of

livestock has raised concerns about a catastrophic outbreak.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/tx/5930915.html>

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Government Facilities Sector

32. *August 8, Reuters* – (Florida) **Man held in Florida for threat to kill Obama, Bush.** A man with self-described mental health problems was ordered held without bail in Florida on Thursday on charges that he had threatened to assassinate the Democratic presidential candidate or the current president. The man was arrested by the Secret Service in Miami on Saturday after making threats before other participants against both the candidate and president at a bail bondsman's training course, according to federal court papers. Police found an ample cache of ammunition, including armor piercing bullets, and a handgun in the suspect's sport utility vehicle and the Miami hotel room.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/topNews/idUSN0734763220080808?feedType=RSS&feedName=topNews>

33. *August 8, Reuters* – (National) **Military wants to lead U.S. into the green.** The U.S. military has a history of fostering change, from racial integration to development of the Internet. Now, Pentagon officials say their green energy efforts will help America fight global warming. The Defense Department accounts for 1.5 percent of U.S. energy consumption. The military has set a goal that 25 percent of its energy should come from renewable sources by 2025. These energy technologies developed by the Pentagon may one day spread to households, as a byproduct of a more efficient military, said the commander of Nellis Air Force Base outside Las Vegas, Nevada. The leader of the Pentagon's research and engineering arm said that in the next few years, the military can reduce energy consumption by 10-20 percent.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/environmentNews/idUSN0746438420080808?feedType=RSS&feedName=environmentNews&sp=true>

34. *August 7, Dark Reading* – (International) **Feds: Foreign attackers 'knocking on our door every day.'** At the annual "Meet the Feds" session at the Black Hat conference, top federal officials said the threat of cyber attack against the U.S. is very real – and is already happening. "There are countries that have [cyber] capabilities equivalent to ours, and in some cases, that exceed ours," said the assistant director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's cybercrime division. "There are countries that are knocking on our door every day – and they are a threat to our national security." The assistant director declined to name any specific countries or threats. But when asked about recent public cyber attacks that reportedly emanated from China and Russia, he said, "We're not worried so much about the noisy attacks as we are about the quiet ones." The capabilities of other countries and splinter groups should not be underestimated, said a representative from the National Security Agency. "We have to be careful about assuming the technological superiority of the United States," he said. "That's the height of arrogance. These attacks don't necessarily require a lot of skill or technology. All

they need is access to the Internet.” Government agencies are wrestling with many of the same problems as the private sector, because so many of their systems and communications rely on private-sector infrastructure, the officials said. For example, the speakers bristled at the notion that the government should bear responsibility for protecting critical infrastructure systems, such as the power grid, from cyber attack. Similarly, it is not possible for many government agencies to create a separate, “safe” network that is divorced from the Internet, officials said.

Source: http://www.darkreading.com/document.asp?doc_id=161089&WT.svl=news2_1

35. *August 7, KXAN 36 Austin* – (Texas) **UT employee arrested for bomb threat.** A University of Texas employee accused of threatening to blow up a building was arrested August 6, one week after police say he threatened colleagues in the Alumni Building. A police sergeant said, “He made specific threats to blow up the Alumni center as well as indicating that he could possibly use a handgun.” The 21-year-old reportedly got upset when his paycheck was not ready when he arrived to pick it up. The suspect apparently told a friend that he would blow the building up. Another employee overheard him talking about how he could get someone to make a C-4 bomb.

Source: http://www.kxan.com/Global/story.asp?S=8805551&nav=menu73_2_5

36. *August 7, Air Force Research Laboratory* – (International) **Researchers create system to convert waste to energy.** Researchers with the Air Force Research Laboratory’s Materials and Manufacturing Directorate at the Tyndall Air Force Base are developing a transportable waste-to-energy system to produce electricity at forward military operating locations. An executive order requires that federal agencies increase their domestic use of renewable energy and produce it in an environmentally and economically sound, sustainable manner. The order suggests implementation at facilities not within the United States. According to the Robotic Group lead, the system would reduce the amount of fossil fuel consumed at each forward military operating location where it would be installed.

Source: <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123109809>

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Emergency Services Sector

37. *August 7, Computerworld* – (Michigan) **First responders get more emergency communications options.** Emergency response teams may be getting more help on the radio communications front, in the form of a prototype “breadcrumb” system developed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) as well as a new multiband radio from Motorola Inc. NIST announced this week that it had demonstrated its prototype two-way radio communications system for emergency crews making their ways into buildings, mines, tunnels and other structures in response to fires and collapses. The demonstration was held at a workshop for emergency responders on Tuesday at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Massachusetts. In a newsletter, NIST said the system features smart multihop relay devices, called breadcrumbs. The relay devices run software that can notify emergency crews when they need to place another of the breadcrumbs along their route to extend the range of communications

down a hallway or tunnel. The system uses off-the-shelf microprocessors and other standard hardware along with the NIST-developed software, which monitors the status of radio communications signals. NIST said the software can rapidly assess the strength of the signal that emergency workers are receiving, so they can get an alert before they walk out of range and lose contact with the last relay device. On Monday, meanwhile, Motorola introduced its APX line of multiband radios, saying that the devices support both voice and data transmissions and offer multiagency interoperability for emergency response workers. The APX line works in the 700-MHz, 800-MHz and VHF bands, runs across FDMA and TDMA networks, and includes integrated GPS capabilities.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9111967&intsrc=hm_list

38. *August 7, Computerworld* – (Michigan) **Verizon at work as 911 system fails.** Verizon was working Thursday morning to restore the city's 911 system which failed at 11 p.m. Tuesday. Emergency calls to Quincy police and fire were bounced to Milton Police Department, and that department relayed the information back to Quincy dispatchers at the police department by computer, Quincy's Police Captain said. He attributed the system failure to a circuit problem. He said there was no delay in dispatching police officers or firefighters to answer emergency calls after the system failed Tuesday night. "The public was never at risk," he added.

Source:

http://www.redorbit.com/news/technology/1514894/verizon_at_work_as_911_system_fails/

39. *August 7, Plain Dealer* – (Ohio) **Hacker sets off six safety sirens in Brunswick.** A hacker armed with radio codes set off emergency sirens in Brunswick early Wednesday. Police were unable to override the hacker's radio tones and had to turn off each of the six sirens by hand. The noise, which began at 12:44 a.m., went on for about 20 minutes. It was the second night this year the sirens were illegally activated. The battery-operated devices were turned on twice March 27, prompting more than 1,000 calls to police after 1 a.m. In response to the March incidents, a notification system was installed. It was used Wednesday to call 13,000 Brunswick telephones to inform residents that the sirens were not signaling an emergency. No arrests have been made. Now Brunswick is offering a \$5,000 reward for help in the arrest of the culprit.

Source: <http://www.ohio.com/news/26368339.html>

40. *August 6, KTVB 7 Boise* – (Idaho) **Chertoff looks to NIFC for framework of disaster response.** The Secretary of the Interior and the other is Secretary of Homeland Security were in Boise Wednesday to meet with workers at the National Interagency Fire Center. The DHS Secretary was visiting NIFC to better familiarize himself with the agency's roll in wildland fire support and coordination. He was also here to discuss how NIFC plays a roll in the national response framework, and take a look at the comprehensive national plan for responding to disasters and emergencies. The tour of NIFC comes at a critical time as crews continue to battle wildfires across California. Last year, 2.5 million acres across the U.S. were burned by wildfires. So far this year, about 400,000

acres have been charred, but officials say the California wildfire season started a month earlier this year and they expect this to be a very bad fire season.

Source: http://www.ktvb.com/news/localnews/stories/ktvbn-aug0508-chertoff_nifc_visit.1fa8efb0.html

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Information Technology

41. *August 8, All Headline News* – (Michigan) **University of Michigan engineers develop off-PC virus detection system.** Engineers at the University of Michigan (UM) have developed a new approach to protect computers against viruses more effectively than traditional antivirus software installed on PCs. The approach, called CloudAV, analyzes files using 12 different antivirus programs that run simultaneously. The functioning of multiple antivirus engines significantly increases protection, a professor of computer science and engineering in UM's Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, told Newswise. The approach can also detect malware faster than traditional antivirus engines, which only works when it is running alone. Computers, cellular phones, and other mobile devices with simple software agent can use the CloudAV approach.

Source: <http://www.allheadlinenews.com/articles/7011871448>

42. *August 7, Computerworld* – (International; New Jersey) **Former prosecutor: UFO hack looked like terrorist attack.** After the computer network at the Naval Weapons Station Earle in New Jersey was breached and crashed just a few weeks after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, investigators thought it might be part of a larger al-Qaeda plot against the U.S. Investigators worked around the clock to figure out who had been in and out of the system that runs the weapons station for about five months, stealing passwords, installing remote access software, deleting data, and ultimately shutting down the network of 300 computers for an entire week. That weeklong shutdown meant that for that period of time – in the aftermath of attacks on the U.S. – the station could not replenish munitions and supplies to the Atlantic fleet. After throwing critical resources at the probe when the government was already investigating not only the 9/11 attacks but the anthrax killings, investigators did not track the breach to al-Qaeda. They tracked it to an unemployed system administrator in the U.K., who was subsequently charged with hacking into 92 computer systems at the U.S. Army, the U.S. Air Force, the Department of Defense, and NASA. His last appeal against extradition to the U.S. has now been dismissed by a British court.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9111981&intsrc=hm_ts_head

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Communications Sector

43. *August 7, Ann Arbor News* – (Michigan) **Phone outages in Saline, Pittsfield Township could continue into Friday.** Officials say phone interruptions in Saline and Pittsfield Township may not be resolved until Friday evening. A communications line break Thursday morning interrupted landline phones, dial-up Internet service, and rendered cell phone service spotty in western Pittsfield Township and Saline. The underground line, which construction crews damaged on Michigan Avenue west of State Street in Pittsfield Township, is used by several communications companies. It is unclear how many residents are affected. Depending on the service provider, cell phones may have unreliable service because some companies use that line to connect to the phone grid.

Source:

http://blog.mlive.com/annarbornews/2008/08/phone_outages_in_saline_pittsf.html

44. *August 6, United Press International* – (New York; Vermont) **Murder victim 911 call goes to wrong state.** Police records indicate a cell phone call to 911 from a Vermont woman allegedly murdered by her son went astray and delayed police for more than 30 minutes. WPTZ-TV, Plattsburgh, New York, said Wednesday the woman's call wound up being answered by dispatchers on the New York side of Lake Champlain and was not relayed to the Vermont State Police in Rutland for another half an hour. WPTZ said it was not unheard of for 911 calls placed in Vermont to be picked up in New York's Washington County.

Source:

http://www.upi.com/Top_News/2008/08/06/Murder_victim_911_call_goes_to_wrong_state/UPI-44761218046117/

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Commercial Facilities Sector

Nothing to report.

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

45. *August 7, Modesto Bee* – (California) **Mariposa wildfire is contained.** The Telegraph fire in Mariposa County was declared 100 percent contained Wednesday morning, nearly two weeks after a target shooter accidentally ignited it July 25. Full power has been restored to Yosemite National Park, which had been running on generators. Figures released Wednesday by California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection officials show the fire burned 34,091 acres, 53 square miles, destroyed 30 homes and 100 outbuildings, and ended with 38 injuries, all minor, to firefighters. A California fire captain said 1,143 firefighters remained deployed Wednesday to strengthen and improve fire lines and to continue fire suppression repairs.

Source: <http://www.modbee.com/local/story/383919.html>

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Dams Sector

46. *August 8, Advocate* – (Louisiana) **Corps team touts benefits of ‘armoring’ levee system.** A lesson about levee vulnerability learned during Hurricane Katrina has revealed that the planned protection system for Terrebonne Parish will need armoring, staff members with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said Thursday. A review of levee failures during Hurricane Katrina found that weak spots in levees occur at the place where dirt levees meet hard structures, such as storm water gates or other water control structures. The Morganza-to-the-Gulf hurricane protection system includes 26 of these hard structures, said the Corps senior project manager for the Morganza-to-the-Gulf levee project. Armoring is the process of putting a hard protective coating – such as concrete or rock – behind a levee structure. The armoring is meant to decrease the chance of water erosion of a levee that is topped by a storm surge. The state organized the technical review panel in May to help identify and pose solutions to problems with the levee project which received authorization in last year’s federal Water Resources Development Act. However, after that authorization, the Corps’ estimated cost for the project increased by a large enough amount to trigger a congressionally mandated examination of the project’s cost and benefits.

Source: <http://www.theadvocate.com/news/26406904.html>

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DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

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Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282–9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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